

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00
SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ERDA-05 H-01 INR-07 IO-13 L-03
OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SP-02 SS-15
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OSD:LMICHAEL
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NSC:SHADLEY - S/S:SESTEINER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY BONN
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

S E C R E T STATE 009717

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR

SUBJECT: MBFR: FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF DATA DISCUSSION

REF: NATO 153 (DTG 121955Z JAN 77)

1. WE BELIEVE GUIDANCE IN PARA 7, CM(75)53 IS CURRENTLY
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SUFFICIENT FOR INITIAL COUNTING RULES DISCUSSION. WE
THEREFORE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT, IN GENERAL, SPC
DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE FUTHER GUIDANCE TO AHG ON THESE
DISCUSSIONS WILL NOT BE NECESSARY UNTIL WE HAVE DEVELOPED
A CLEARER IDEA ABOUT FUTURE NEGOTIATING NEEDS AS THE
RESULT OF OUR INITIAL DISCUSSIONS WITH EAST. HOWEVER, WE
ACCEPT CANADIAN POINT THAT WE NEED TO KEEP THIS IN MIND AS

WE ENTER INTO INITIAL DISCUSSIONS.

2. BEGIN FYI: AS MISSION WILL RECALL, AT US-UK-FRG TRI-LATERAL LAST SEPTEMBER, THE UK UNDERTOOK TO PREPARE A PAPER ON DATA/DEFINITIONS DISCUSSION, INCORPORATING US AND FRG VIEWS. WHILE WE DO NOT WANT TO PRESS UK ON THIS MATTER, MISSION MIGHT ASK UK DELEGATION IN LOW KEY WAY ABOUT STATUS OF THIS PAPER. END FYI.

3. AS TO SPECIFIC CANADIAN SUGGESTION FOR WG STUDY ON "SECURITY IMPLICATIONS" OF DISCUSSING VARIOUS WAYS ALLIES CALCULATE FORCE STRENGTHS, WE SEE NO NEED FOR THIS TYPE OF STUDY. WE HAVE NOT UNCOVERED ANY SIGNIFICANT SECURITY IMPLICATIONS, AND IN ANY CASE, WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE WE SHOULD NOT DISCUSS THESE CALCULATIONS AND THEIR INCONSISTENCIES WITH EAST. MOREOVER, IF ASKED BY EAST, WE SHOULD NOT DEVIATE FROM THE LANGUAGE OF CM(76)83 IN DESCRIBING WESTERN TA. THUS, WE DO NOT NEED TO DEVELOP GUIDANCE ON THIS POINT AT THIS TIME. BEGIN FYI: WE DO NOT DESCRIBE OUR DATA AS REPRESENTING "ACTUAL STRENGTHS." END FYI.

4. HOWEVER, IF CANADIANS PERSIST IN PUSHING THIS IDEA AND

CAN IDENTIFY REASONABLE "SECURITY IMPLICATIONS," WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO REVIEW OUR POSITION IF ALLIED CONSENSUS DEVELOPED.

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